

for their independence. The faith of our Founding Fathers established the precedent that prayers and national days of prayer are an honored part of our American way of life.

Continuing in that tradition, many of the men and women who have served at the highest levels of our Nation also have turned to prayer seeking wisdom from the Almighty. President Lincoln, who proclaimed a day of "humiliation, fasting, and prayer" in 1863, once stated: "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom, and that of all about me, seemed insufficient for the day." Today, millions of Americans continue to hold dear that conviction President Lincoln so eloquently expressed. Gathering in churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, and homes, we ask for strength, direction, and compassion for our neighbors and ourselves.

The theme of the 2001 National Day of Prayer is "One Nation Under God." In a prayer written specially for the occasion, Americans are asked to pray for "a moral and spiritual renewal to help us meet the many problems we face." Special observances are scheduled for all 50 States, with local volunteers planning a variety of activities including prayer breakfasts, concerts, rallies, and student gatherings. These events will bring people of all faiths together, each according to his or her own beliefs, to give thanks to the Almighty and to ask for strength and guidance.

The Congress, by Public Law 100-307, has called on our citizens to reaffirm the role of prayer in our society and to honor the religious diversity our freedom permits by recognizing annually a "National Day of Prayer."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 3, 2001, as a National Day of Prayer. I encourage the citizens of our Nation to pray each in his or her own manner, seeking God's blessings on our families and government officials and personal renewal, moral awakening, and a new spirit of harmony across our land. I urge all Americans to join in ob-

serving this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:07 a.m., May 1, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 30, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on May 2.

Remarks at the First Hundred Days Congressional Luncheon

April 30, 2001

Thank you all. Thank you for coming. I appreciate you bringing such nice weather. It's good to see members of my Cabinet who are here. Mr. Secretary, thank you for being here.

Today marks our hundredth day of working together for the American people. We've had some good debates. We've made some good progress, and it looks like we're going to pass some good law.

I've now met with most of you, and here's what I think. I think America is lucky to have such distinguished citizens coming to Washington to represent them. I've been impressed by the caliber of the person; I've been impressed by the conviction that you brought to the Oval Office.

Oh, I know we always don't agree. But we're beginning to get a spirit here in Washington where we're more agreeable, where we're setting a different tone. So when the good folks of this country look at our Nation's Capital, they see something they can be proud of.

I want to thank you all very much for your service to the country. I want to thank your families for the sacrifice they make. I also want to thank you for the constructive spirit in which we've conducted the people's business. I know this: That whatever your views on a particular issue are, that we share a common goal, and that is to serve our country.

And it's okay sometimes to share a meal, and that's why we're here. [*Laughter*]

So I want to thank you for being here. If you will join me in the East Room, I think we've got some pretty good food for you.

Thanks for your service. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House.

Statement on the Death of Richard M. Scammon

April 30, 2001

Richard Scammon was a groundbreaking analyst of American politics. He brought rigor and insight to the study of elections. And he studied elections because he loved democracy. All who share that passion will miss him.

Executive Order 13209— Amendment to Executive Order 13183, Establishment of the President's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status

April 30, 2001

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to extend by 3 months the time in which the President's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status is to report to the President as directed in Executive Order 13183 of December 23, 2000, it is hereby ordered that section 4 of Executive Order 13183 is amended by deleting "May 1, 2001" and inserting in lieu thereof "August 1, 2001".

George W. Bush

The White House,
April 30, 2001

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:07 a.m., May 1, 2001]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on May 2.

Memorandum on Certification To Permit U.S. Contributions to the International Fund for Ireland

April 30, 2001

Presidential Determination No. 2001-14

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Certification to Permit U.S. Contributions to the International Fund for Ireland with Fiscal Year 2000 and 2001 Funds

Pursuant to section 5(c) of the Anglo-Irish Agreement Support Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-415), as amended in section 2811 of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (as contained in Public Law 105-277), I hereby certify that I am satisfied that: (1) the Board of the International Fund for Ireland, as a whole, is broadly representative of the interests of the communities in Ireland and Northern Ireland; and (2) disbursements from the International Fund (a) will be distributed to individuals and entities whose practices are consistent with principles of economic justice; and (b) will address the needs of both communities in Northern Ireland and will create employment opportunities in regions and communities of Northern Ireland suffering from high rates of unemployment.

You are authorized and directed to transmit this determination, together with the attached statement setting forth a detailed explanation of the basis for this certification, to the Congress.

This determination shall be effective immediately and shall be published in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush